

# CONGRATULATING THE DETROIT SHOCK ON WINNING THE 2006 WOMEN'S NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIP

(Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I stand to congratulate the Detroit Shock, the Women's National Basketball Association's champions for 2006, the second time they have won the title in 3 years; 12 outstanding women, who have come forth and persevered and won the championship one more time. Six of those women were on the world championship team of 2003.

Congratulations to Coach Bill Laimbeer, Assistant Coach Rick Mahorn, as well as Cheryl Reeve. Most valuable player Deanna Nolan, congratulations for those jump shots and tenacity.

You stand in history in the Women's National Basketball Association, as well as the National Basketball Association, as winners. Let women all over the world know that you can persevere in whatever you choose to be.

Congratulations, Detroit Shock, 2006 Women's National Basketball Association winners. We love you.

# HONORING XAVIER UNIVERSITY, DILLARD UNIVERSITY AND SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY AT NEW ORLEANS

(Mr. JEFFERSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. JEFFERSON. Mr. Speaker, as we honor Historically Black Colleges and Universities this week, I rise to applaud the commitment and tradition of HBCUs in my district. I am proud to say that in my district I am able to represent three of the most well-known HBCUs in the country: Xavier University, Dillard University and Southern University at New Orleans.

Xavier University ranks among the top in sending African Americans to medical school and accounts for a large share of African American pharmacists nationwide.

Dillard, highly regarded by U.S. News and World Report, has become widely known for its nursing program.

After starting with only two buildings SUNO has produced leading African Americans in the disparate fields of social work and computer science.

Collectively, these schools have served as profiles in courage and leadership as they rebuild in the face of Hurricane Katrina, which still threatens the future of all of them.

They have done a great deal with sometimes lean resources; however, that is the signature of HBCUs across the Nation. As a proud graduate of Southern University in Baton Rouge, I have been one of the many beneficiaries of the positive, nurturing and high-quality education provided by

these nationally significant institutions.

I urge my colleagues to work towards ensuring that generations of African American students are able to benefit from the very special contribution that HBCUs provide to higher education.

# MOURNING THE LOSS OF FORMER TEXAS GOVERNOR ANN RICHARDS

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my sad duty to report to the House of Representatives the loss of an American original, and that is our former governor, the great Ann Richards. Governor Richards died yesterday after a long battle with throat cancer. She was 73.

I can tell you for sure that Ann Richards made us proud to be Texans. Dorothy Ann Willis Richards began her career in politics in the early 1970s after having raised four children. A Democrat, she served as County Commissioner in Travis County, Texas, from 1977 to 1982. Ann Richards was elected to the first of two terms as Texas State Treasurer in 1982.

She was born in Lakeview, Texas. She grew up in Waco, Texas, and graduated from Waco High School. And she loved her Texas.

After graduation, she taught social studies and history at Fulmore Junior High School in Austin, Texas, from 1955 to 1956. She had two daughters and two sons in the following years, and she campaigned for Texas liberals and progressives such as Henry B. Gonzalez, Ralph Yarborough, and Sarah Weddington, and she was not ashamed.

In 1976, Richards ran against and defeated a three-term incumbent on the Travis County, Texas, Commissioner Court.

Ann Richards gave that unforgettable keynote address in the 1988 Democratic National Convention, and she turned the Nation around.

In 1990, she sought the Democratic gubernatorial nomination. She won and she won as governor. And I am reminded of the Honorable Barbara Jordan, who campaigned for her; and the two of them were Texas' dynamic duo.

She did a lot as governor. The first thing she said was to cut the shackles off of the governor's house and opened it to the people of Texas. That is the kind of public official Ann Richards was and continued to be, someone who believed in the people's house and the people first.

She helped jump-start the economy in Texas. She helped reform the prison system by providing an abuse program for inmates, and she instituted the Texas lottery so that educational opportunities could be improved for our children.

Texas has lost a wonderful native daughter, someone who loved and cherished democracy, justice, the oppor-

tunity for those who could not speak for themselves.

Ann Richards stood for the opportunity for women in the public sector. She said to us, do not turn back, and yes, we can.

None of us who knew and loved Ann Richards will ever forget her or the way she heightened and brightened the lives of all the people she served. She was one in a million and she will be deeply missed. She will never be replaced. She was an American original. She was my friend. We will forever be in her debt and forever miss her.

Thank you, Ann Richards, for being the kind of role model for all the women, all the girls and all of America.

# FEAR IS ALL THE REPUBLICANS HAVE TO OFFER

(Mr. McDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans gave us their November 7 resolution last night. Five years ago, the Nation stood as one, but the Republicans have divided us ever since. They believe dividing America is the best hope for clinging to power in the November election.

They can pass self-congratulatory resolutions that have more to do with November 7 than September 11, but patting themselves on the back is no substitute for protecting the American people by adopting the recommendations of the bipartisan 9/11 Commission.

Republicans have not done that. Instead, Republicans have been ordered by the President to continue his fiction that Iraq and al Qaeda were connected. The evidence proves otherwise, so Republican leaders are trying to hide the evidence beneath their rhetoric.

Just remember this: Republicans have propped up this President by spending more on the Iraq war than on domestic security. Republicans have given us fear and fiction around the fifth anniversary of 9/11. Just imagine what they have in store for us in the next weeks.

Fear has never made America safer, but that is all the Republicans have to offer, and that is simply not enough to protect and defend America in the 21st century.

# WE NEED A NEW DIRECTION ON SECURITY IN AMERICA

(Ms. SOLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise because America needs a new direction for homeland security. Our Republican colleagues are ignoring our Nation's real security needs.

The 9/11 Commission made 41 recommendations on ways to make our Nation safer, but just this December America received a flunked Homeland